

Attorney Docket No.: J6866(C)  
Serial No.: 10/712,490  
Filed: November 13, 2003  
Confirmation No.: 8338

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendment is being filed simultaneously with Applicants' prior amendment filed under 37 CFR §1.116. Applicants request that the prior amendment be entered first followed by this Preliminary Amendment. Applicants request that both amendments be entered prior to an examination on the merits in this RCE application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to our deposit account No. 12-1155, including all required fees under: 37 C.F.R. §1.16; 37 C.F.R. §1.17; 37 C.F.R. §1.18; 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.